

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application, and for the courtesies extended to Applicant's representative during the telephone conversation on December 7, 2005. The Office Action dated December 13, 2005 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

By this Response, claims 2, 9 and 15 have been amended in accordance with the December 7, 2005 telephone conversation with Examiner Loke. No new matter has been added. Claims 2-6, 9 and 11-20 are pending in the application. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

In the Office Action, claims 2-6, 9 and 11-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. Further, claims 2, 9 and 15 are indicated as allowable if rewritten to overcome the § 112 rejection. Applicants thank the Examiner for the suggested claim amendments. Applicants have amended claims 2, 9 and 15 of the application. Accordingly, the rejection is overcome. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Applicant believes the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

Application No.: 09/660,186
Amendment dated January 27, 2006
Reply to Office Action dated December 13, 2005

Docket No.: 8733.298.00

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Dated: January 27, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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